

question for the majority leader. If we were able to work out amendments cleared on both sides, is it necessary for us to personally offer it, or can one of the managers offer it in our name if it has been cleared, because that would speed things along.

Mr. LOTT. The UC specifically says "other than agreed upon amendments to be offered by the managers."

Mrs. BOXER. I want to make sure they will be offered in the name of the Senator who wrote them rather than the manager.

Mr. LOTT. I believe that is the way they do them.

Mrs. BOXER. I have no objection.

Mr. COATS. Reserving the right to object.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I have a question for the majority leader. He listed three amendments to be debated this evening, I believe those of Senator NICKLES, Senator GRAMM of Texas, and Senator KERRY. Is there a time limitation on the debate of those? The reason I ask is because for those who want to stay afterward and take the 10 minutes to describe an amendment that will be offered tomorrow, it will be good to know that there is some limitation on the time for debate for those three particular amendments.

Mr. LOTT. In answer to the Senator, I say there was no time agreement worked out, partially because the Senators didn't want that time agreement. I am hoping they will be actually relatively short in time. I know Senator NICKLES doesn't need a lot of time. I believe these amendments will go relatively quickly, and there will be time left for other Members to address the Senate on their amendments. And then after that, when all time has expired, Senators can still talk in morning business for up to 10 minutes. We did not get a time agreement in our effort to get the UC worked out, but I think we are talking about a relatively short period time of time.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. BYRD. My reservation, Mr. President—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. May we have order in the Senate, please? The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. BYRD. While I have submitted a reservation, may I offer a parliamentary inquiry? Will a motion to recommit, either a straight motion to recommit or a motion to recommit with instructions, still be in order, even though a Senator has not reserved a spot on this list?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the Budget Act, the only motion to recommit that can be considered is one that occurs within 3 days; it specifies the bill be reported back in 3 days.

Mr. BYRD. And is that motion in order any time prior to the conclusion of action on the bill?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is correct.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, reserving the right to object—I will not object—I am concerned about these process amendments. I am particularly concerned that there may be a process amendment that would wipe out the Byrd rule. I am also concerned that there might be a process amendment that would wipe out all 60-vote points of order. Either of those would be pretty fatal to this process.

And I hope that while we have both leaders here and a good size attendance, that we will be very aware, very alert to the possibility of either of those, which would mean that the reconciliation process, as we know it—perhaps we don't like it as we know it—but it will be gone. Period. I hope it won't happen. Would the Senator include me as a Senator who might offer a process amendment or a motion?

Mr. DOMENICI. I so request. May I say to Senator BYRD, we very carefully looked at these amendments with the view that you have in mind, and I can tell you that none of the process amendments that are listed in the unanimous-consent request address either the Byrd rule, nor do any of those amendments—what was your other?

Mr. BYRD. Wipe out 60-vote points of order.

Mr. DOMENICI. Nor do they attempt to permit us to vote with less than 60 votes on any of these matters that are subject to a point of order.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I am greatly relieved, and I thank the Senator.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, before I put forth the unanimous-consent request one more time, we did add the Byrd resolution or amendment to the process list of amendments, and I renew my unanimous-consent request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. For the information of all Senators, then, there will be no further votes tonight. Following debate on the three amendments, any Senator wishing to discuss an amendment that may be offered tomorrow may do so. The Senate would then begin voting at 9 a.m. on Friday, on or in relation to the three listed amendments and any amendments offered tomorrow. If Senators do intend to offer amendments tomorrow, I urge them to please give a copy to the managers, since there will be no debate time other than the 2-minute-equally-divided time. It will be very helpful to all Senators to have these amendments available so they can be given to interested Senators.

I yield the floor. We have approximately 1 hour and 5 minutes left of time on the bill.

Mr. NICKLES addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma is recognized.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, the Senate is still not in order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. May we have order in the Senate so we can con-

tinue on the 1 hour and 5 minutes that is rapidly dissolving? If staff will please take their seats and if conversations will please cease, we can continue with the business of the Senate.

The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I thank you for getting order in the Senate.

Mr. KOHL addressed the Chair.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I will be happy to yield to the Senator from Wisconsin for 2 minutes without losing my right to the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

AMENDMENT NO. 524

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, tomorrow I will up amendment No. 524 which I believe is at the desk. This amendment creates a tax incentive for companies that provide child care for the dependents of their employees. The amendment is also cosponsored by Senators DASCHLE, DEWINE, BOXER, D'AMATO, MOSELEY-BRAUN, SNOWE, SPECTER, and JOHNSON.

Our amendment creates a tax credit for employers who get involved in increasing the supply of quality child care. The credit is limited to 50 percent of \$150,000 per company per year.

The amendment is based on S. 82, the Child Care Infrastructure Act, which has received praise from businesses, parents, and day care workers alike. Working Mother magazine gave the initiative its "Lollipops" award in the January issue, and the Children's Defense Fund has endorsed it. S. 82 is also endorsed by the National Center for the Early Childhood Work Force and the National Child Care Association.

The amendment responds to a great need, a great challenge, and a great opportunity. The need is to provide a safe and stimulating place for our youngest children to spend their time while their parents are at work. The challenge is to make the American workplace more productive by making it more responsive to the needs of the American family. And the opportunity is to take what we are learning about the importance of early childhood education and use it to help our children become the best educated adults of the 21st century.

The credit is offset by authorizing an anti-fraud program that will keep parents who do not have custody of their children from unlawfully claiming child-related tax benefits.

Child care is an investment that is good for children, good for business, good for our States, and good for the Nation. We need to involve every level of government—and private communities and private businesses—in building a child care infrastructure that is the best in the world. Our amendment is a first, essential and deficit neutral step toward that end, and I urge all my colleagues to support it.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise to support Senator KOHL's amendment. This amendment would provide tax credits to encourage businesses and other institutions to provide child care for their employees.